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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/506,363	09/02/2004	Masanori Yoshikawa	10873.1517USWO	1043

7590 03/12/2007
HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER & LARSON, P.C.
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EXAMINER

CHERRY, EUNCHA P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2872

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/12/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/506,363	Applicant(s) YOSHIKAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner EUNCHA P. CHERRY	Art Unit 2872	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 5 and 6 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 7-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 4, 7, 8 and 11 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Atsuumi (US 6,198,563 B1).

Atsuumi discloses an optical scanner (Figs. 1 and 2) comprising a light source part (1), an optical deflector (4) that scans a light beam from the light source part, and first (6) and second (7) reflecting optical elements, wherein the light beam from the light source part after being reflected from the optical deflector is reflected from the second reflecting optical element, then is reflected from the first reflecting optical element, and further is reflected from the second reflecting optical element and the beam is reflected from the first reflecting optical element only one time (see light ray shown in Figure 2). The first image forming optical system (figure 1, 2 and 3) that is disposed between the light source pad (1) and the optical deflector (4) and allows a linear image

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to be formed on a deflection surface of the optical deflector wherein the first reflecting optical element (6) is disposed between the optical deflector (4) and a surface (8) to be scanned and constitutes a second image forming optical system, and the first image forming optical system, the optical deflector (4), and the second image forming optical system are disposed respectively in different positions in a sub-scanning direction so that a light beam from the first image forming optical system is incident obliquely relative to a plane that includes a normal line to the deflection surface of the optical deflector (4) and is parallel to a main scanning direction (column 8, lines 19-34), and so that a light beam from the optical deflector is incident obliquely relative to a plane that includes a normal line and is parallel to the main scanning direction (Figs. 1 and 2), wherein the second reflecting optical element reflects a light beam reflected from the first reflecting optical element by using a common surface of the second reflecting optical element (see 7).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 3, 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Atsuumi.

Atsuumi discloses the claimed invention as set forth above except for the first reflecting optical system is formed of a curved surface mirror. However, the second reflecting optical system of the prior art is formed of a curved surface mirror (see 7). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to make the first reflecting optical system to have curved surface for the purpose of obtaining a compact device.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 5 and 6 are allowable over the prior art.

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: see previous action.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are found not persuasive for the following reason. Applicant argues that the prior art does not meet the amended language of "a light beam be incident directly on a second reflecting optical element after being reflected from an

optical deflector". Applicant is reminded that the such language is clearly met by the prior art as shown in figure 2 because applicant fails to provide any language that prevents examiner from applying the prior art against the present invention, such as a light beam being incident directly on a second reflecting optical element without any other optical element being disposed between the optical deflector and the second reflecting element. Therefore, it appears that the rejection is deemed proper at this time.

Conclusion

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

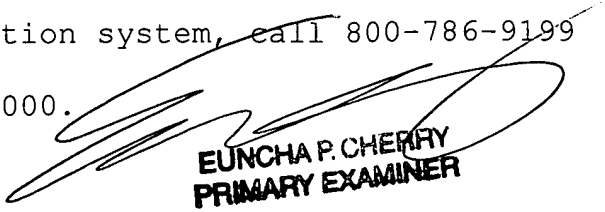
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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to EUNCHA P. CHERRY whose telephone number is 571-272-2310. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:30-4:00, alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephone B. Allen can be reached on 571-272-2434. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


EUNCHA P. CHERRY
PRIMARY EXAMINER